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AGCA ASSERTS K.G.B. AIDED IN POPE PLOT

Turk Tells Journalists in Italy Bulgarians Also Took Part

By The Associated Press

ROME, July 8 — Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish terrorist who tried to kill Pope John Paul II, said in a surprise encounter with journalists today that the Soviet secret police and "Bulgarian services" took part in the attempt to kill the Pope in May 1981.

Mr. Agca, who is serving a life prison sentence for the shooting of the Pope, made the assertion as he emerged from police headquarters, where he had been questioned in another case.

The independent Italian news agency A.G.I. quoted Mr. Agca as having said: "I have been several times in Bulgaria and in Syria — and in the attack against the Pope even the K.G.B. took part."

'Yes, the K.G.B.'

In film broadcast later on Italian national television, Mr. Agca was again asked what parties were involved in the attempt against the Pope, and if they included the K.G.B., the Soviet security and intelligence service. He said, "Yes, the K.G.B."

It was the first time Mr. Agca spoke to reporters about the plan to kill the Pope, who was seriously wounded when the Turk shot him in St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981.

Italian press reports have earlier reported that Mr. Agca told investigators that the plot to kill the Pope involved

Bulgarians acting under instructions from the Soviet secret police.

In the unexpected exchange with the journalists, Mr. Agca was asked if he knew Sergei Ivanov Antonov, an official of the Bulgarian Airline who was arrested in Rome last November on charges of complicity in the shooting. "I knew Sergei, he was my accomplice," Mr. Agca said.

Mr. Antonov, 34 years old, has denied involvement in the attack, but investigators have told reporters they believe he played "an active role" in the attempted assassination.

Mr. Agca spoke with reporters after he was brought to police headquarters from a prison near Rome for questioning about the kidnapping of the 15-year-old daughter of a Vatican employee.

A man who telephoned a friend of the missing girl claimed to be the abductor and demanded that Mr. Agca be released by July 20.

He did not say what would happen to the girl if Mr. Agca were not freed.

As Mr. Agca left police headquarters, he shouted in broken Italian, "I am with the innocent girl, with the family that is being hurt, I am with Italy and the Vatican!"

Reporters pressed forward as the handcuffed prisoner was led to an armored police car and he told them, speaking in Italian and then English: "I am repentant for the attack on the Pope. I admire the Pope and I thank the Italian justice. I am very good in Italian jails, I have lied when I said I was treated bad in Italian jails."

After he entered the police vehicle he still answered reporters' questions, shouting from the window.

He was asked who was behind the shooting and replied, "I have said the attempt against the Pope was made by Bulgarian services."

"And Antonov?" a reporter asked.

"Yes, Antonov," Agca replied.

"And the K.G.B.?" another reporter shouted.

"Yes, the K.G.B.," he said.

As the questioning continued the Turk said: "I have been trained — by K.G.B."

"I have been trained in Bulgaria. I have been in Bulgaria, I stayed several times."

"I have been trained by special experts in international terrorism."

He was asked where and said, "In Syria, in Bulgaria I have stayed several times."

According to Italian press reports, Mr. Antonov and two other Bulgarians who had worked at the Bulgarian Embassy in Rome have been implicated in the plot against the Pope, along with four other Turks.

Reporters asked him if the other Bulgarians allegedly involved were Teodor Ayvazov and Vassiliev Kolev, the embassy employees who have returned to their homeland, and he said they also had been his accomplices. "I have said that several times," he added.